

HOUSE BILL NO. 806

INTRODUCED BY CLARK, BERGREN, R. BROWN, ELLINGSON, ELLIOTT, GRINDE, GUTSCHE,
HARRIS, LANGE, MANGAN, NOENNIG, PARKER, WANZENRIED, WARDEN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN
AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 7, AND ARTICLE XIV, SECTION 9, OF THE MONTANA
CONSTITUTION TO CHANGE THE DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTORS WHO MUST PETITION TO HAVE A
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PLACED ON THE BALLOT FROM AT LEAST 10 PERCENT IN AT LEAST
ONE-HALF OF THE COUNTIES TO AT LEAST 10 PERCENT IN TWO-FIFTHS OF THE LEGISLATIVE
REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Article III, section 7, of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended to read:

"Section 7. Number of electors. (1) The number of qualified electors required in each legislative
representative district and in the state shall be determined by the number of votes cast for the office of governor
in the preceding general election.

~~—— (2) For the purposes of a constitutional amendment, the number of qualified electors in each county
legislative district and in the state shall be determined by the number of votes cast for the office of governor in
the preceding general election.~~

~~(3)~~(2) For the purposes of a statutory initiative, the number of qualified electors required in each county
and in the state shall be determined by the number of votes cast for the office of governor in the preceding
general election."

Section 2. Article XIV, section 9, of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended to read:

"Section 9. Amendment by initiative. (1) The people may also propose constitutional amendments
by initiative. Petitions including the full text of the proposed amendment shall be signed by at least ten percent
of the qualified electors of the state. That number shall include at least ten percent of the qualified electors in
each of ~~at least one-half~~ two-fifths of the ~~counties~~ legislative REPRESENTATIVE districts.

(2) The petitions shall be filed with the secretary of state. If the petitions are found to have been signed

1 by the required number of electors, the secretary of state shall cause the amendment to be published as
2 provided by law twice each month for two months previous to the next regular state-wide election.

3 (3) At that election, the proposed amendment shall be submitted to the qualified electors for approval
4 or rejection. If approved by a majority voting thereon, it shall become a part of the constitution effective the first
5 day of July following its approval, unless the amendment provides otherwise."

6
7 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Submission to electorate.** This amendment shall be submitted to the
8 qualified electors of Montana at the general election to be held in November 2006 by printing on the ballot the
9 full title of this act and the following:

10 [] FOR requiring that signatures be gathered in each of two-fifths of legislative REPRESENTATIVE
11 districts rather than one-half of the counties for constitutional initiatives.

12 [] AGAINST requiring that signatures be gathered in each of two-fifths of legislative
13 REPRESENTATIVE districts rather than one-half of the counties for constitutional initiatives.

14 - END -